

621 Watertown Street, #18
Newtonville, MA 02460
June 1, 2015

Reay Pannesi
Senior Project Manager
Boston Department of Neighborhood Development
26 Court Street
Boston, MA 02108-2501

Dear Ms. Pannesi:

I am writing in support of the joint proposal of the East Boston CDC, the East Boston Ecumenical Community Council and the East Boston Social Centers to purchase and develop the former branch library at 280-282 Meridian Street, East Boston, MA. ("The Proposal")

The Proposal impressively achieves the goals established by the Department of Neighborhood Development for the former branch library by benefiting a broad base of the East Boston community.

The Proposal will fulfill community needs in East Boston by providing support to immigrant families, child day care, after school youth development programs, multicultural arts programs and adult education up to the Associate Degree level.

The Proposal involves only non-profits so all resources will go to benefit the East Boston community rather than some part of them being diverted for private profit.

Finally, the Proposal will maintain the historic character of the former library and keep its traditional appearance.

Sincerely yours,


Judith C. Zacek

May 31, 2015

Reay Pannesi
Senior Project Manager
Boston Department of Neighborhood Development
26 Court Street
Boston, MA 02108-2501

Dear Ms. Pannesi:

I support the joint proposal of the East Boston CDC, the East Boston Ecumenical Community Council and the East Boston Social Centers to purchase and develop the former branch library at 280-282 Meridian Street, East Boston, MA. ("The Proposal")

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Sincerely yours,



Lynn Holbein

June 1, 2015

Mr. Reay Pannesi
Senior project Manager
Boston Department of Neighborhood Services
26 Court Street
Boston, MA. 02108-2501

Dear Mr.Pannesi.

I am writing to you as a lifelong resident of East Boston, user of the East Boston Meridian Street library since I learned to read (probably 1935), and a part-time employee at the Meridian Street library when I was in high school. I write to strongly and heartily support the EBECC/EBCDC proposal for the future use of that important building.

The building benefits from its location so close to Central Square and benefits from the heavy foot traffic on Meridian Street. The EBECC/EBCDC proposal would continue the long tradition and history of public service to local residents which was provided by the Boston Public Library. The services provided there in the days of early Italian immigration to East Boston and supported and replicated those of settlements houses and other neighborhood centers here.

The auditorium in the basement there is a hidden jewel like no other here. Also in the basement, behind the auditorium, is the beautiful children's reading room. The children's reading room was refurbished with funds provided in Margaret Rey's will. Mrs. Rey, author of the Curious George books, left a million dollars to the BPL specifically for children's services. During WWII, the local draft board was located behind the auditorium. I am sure that EBECC would continue to honor and respect the past history of our library and continue services to our changing populations.

Thank you for your consideration of the past history of the library as you make recommendation for its future use.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Morash
62 Putnam Street
East Boston, MA 02128
617 -569 - 0353

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